

THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

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Taxi owners support licence system

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

Local taxi companies say they would prefer the option of fully licensing the taxi industry as a response to the recent downtown parking controversy.

Grumpy's Taxi owner Carol Wilson goes even further and says the issue of licensing is of far greater importance than the perceived parking problem.

"We don't even care if we have two parking spots downtown," says Wilson, whose company has been serving Haliburton for the last five years under her ownership. "The bottom line is we would like to see regulation. Our main concern, and what we are pushing council on, is the safety of the vehicles."

Wilson has formally told council that she would like to see a regulated industry where a taxi stand each is reserved for the two cab companies at an annual charge of \$1,000 per stand. She calculates that that number would compensate for what her drivers feed into the parking meters each year.

"We're not taking away from your coffers," said Wilson. "We're going to pay for your meters but we're going to do it once a year."

Archival Marty Grant, owner of Hyland Taxi, does not agree that there should be a fee for a parking space. Grant says there is no charge for stands in the city and instead suggests providing three free downtown taxi spaces that are open on a first-come first-serve basis. He did, however, say that he was will-

See **Taxi** page 19



DARREN LUM/Echo

All I want for Christmas

A coy Evelyn Beachli, 6, thinks about her response when Santa Claus asks her what she wants for Christmas following Haliburton's annual parade on Sunday, Nov. 27. The streets were filled with the sounds of the season by more than 300 people participating in the parade.

Parents: talk about drugs with your kids

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

Drugs have never been as close to the mainstream as they are now. Talk of decriminalizing marijuana is still in the forefront on Parliament Hill, popular television shows like *Weeds* and *Trailer Park Boys* regularly depict the use of marijuana, and Canadians in general seem to have developed an aptitude for experimentation.

In fact, statistics released last

year indicate that a whopping 10 million Canadians aged 15 and older have tried marijuana at least once in their life.

This 'normalization' of drugs means that health promoters can no longer depend on preaching to get their message across about the potential risks involved.

Karen Pettinella, a public health nurse with the Haliburton Health Unit, suggests that the danger inherent in cultural acceptance is compla-

cency.

"People may get the feeling that there isn't a risk involved or that everyone does it," says Pettinella. "But I think that being aware of what the risks are can help modify the behaviour."

Pettinella was at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School last week as part of Drug Awareness Week, an educational campaign in which information stands and interactive dis-

See **Finger-wagging** page 13

Woman trapped in car kept safe by passersby

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Peter Fearrey doesn't know how he remained so calm as he put out the fire under the hood of a Jeep that had crashed into the ditch on County Road 1, but the woman who was trapped inside will always be grateful for both his quick thinking and compassionate behaviour.

"It may have been a life and death difference," Val Jones said on Sunday afternoon, five days after she lost control of her Jeep and careered down an embankment and into a hydro pole.

Jones suffered severe trauma to her face. She somehow was badly cut all along her left cheek, eye and scalp and she also suffered a broken shoulder and cracked vertebrae in her neck and spine. She still cannot see out of her left eye.

Her beloved German shepherd, Tristan, broke his neck in the accident and was killed instantly.

Fearrey, the director of environmental services for Haliburton Highlands Health Services, was driving back to the Minden site with co-worker Jerry McKelvey. They came across the accident on the s-curve just past South Kashagawigamog Lake Road and saw a woman climbing up the embankment.

At first Fearrey thought she was the driver of the Jeep, which had likely rolled a couple of times before it struck a hydro pole, cutting off electricity to 400 households in the area.

But the woman lived in a nearby house and when she heard the crash had come running to the scene in her bare feet. She was distraught after

See **Passersby** page 5

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Christmas charity

The Haliburton County Homebuilders' Association President Kirk Holden is helping fill the empty shelves by giving Ave Petch of the Haliburton food bank \$500 raised at the annual golf tournament.

Remembering Clare

here, there & everywhere
news and events worth noting

HALIBURTON, and indeed Canada, lost a little bit of its history when Clare Laking died on Saturday at the age of 106. He was the last Canadian veteran of World War I. His ties to Haliburton began when he came to Haliburton after the war to work for his uncle, William Laking, who owned the Laking Lumber Company. He loved the lifestyle here and returned often when his son Keith bought a cottage on Kushog Lake. Laking spent most of his working life in Toronto where he owned his own lumber yard and, as a retiree, faithfully followed business news as he played the stock market. As more of Canada's veterans passed away, Laking became a bit of a media sweetheart, his twinkling smile and amazing recollections of the past delighting everyone who met him. He even impressed Blue Jays fans when, at the age of 105, he threw the first ball of a home game. Last month Echo editor Martha Perkins went to Sunnybrook's veteran wing to visit Laking, whom she had profiled in The Echo several years earlier (when he was still driving his own car to his son's cottage.) Although his health was declining, and he was at peace with the thought of death, he still could carry on a lively discussion about the battlefields of France and the comparatively bucolic life in Haliburton. Clare Laking was a true gentleman, modest, kind and thoughtful of others. We have all lost a person we could emulate.

If you ever attended Cornwall Collegiate and Vocational School you won't want to miss the 200th Anniversary Reunion being held the weekend of June 30th, 2006. Let your friends and family know. Check out and register on the website www.ccv200.ca and get a discount for early registration.

Two of Canada's funniest comedians will be bringing their shows to Lindsay's Academy Theatre. On February 2, Lorne Elliott will "chase the big silly" while audiences can be "gone with Ron James on April 2. For ticket information call 1-877-888-0038.

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COLDS & FLUS

In the book **SHARK LIVER OIL**, written by four medical doctors, Dr. Hubert says that since his own high-school age children took shark liver oil as a prevention **they have no more colds**, whereas their school mates all have colds and flus, many a number of times each year as all parents know so well. A 65 year old man reports he had **no more colds or flus** for 9 years since he started to take shark liver oil. Dr. Haimes's grandchildren have been taking shark liver oil for 6 months and he writes they have **no infection of any kind** since. What's important is that **Bell Shark Liver Oil** has 25%-27% active AKG (alkoxyglycerols) and high squalene and omega-3 fatty acids content. The gel caps are easy to take and they're inexpensive. Insist on **Bell Shark Liver Oil**, it has a money-back guarantee. It's 100% Natural.
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HALIBURTON COUNTY COMMUNITY RADIO ASSOCIATION

Curry Motors excited about spacious new digs

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

"Space. Space!"

There's still a hint of awe in Don Popple's voice as he takes a tour of the new Curry Motors dealership.

Perched on a hill on Cty. Rd. 21 overlooking Haliburton, the 14,000 square foot building is only at the skeleton stage, but in Popple's mind he can see the finished building already.

There are 11 service bays, each with its own hoist, offices with large picture windows, board room, receptionist's area, a 1,000 sq. ft. mezzanine and Haliburton's first drive-through where customers will drive in with their cars, explain what work they need done and take a seat in the lobby while they wait for a service representative to do the diagnostics.

And that's only on the main floor.

On the second floor is a lunch room, a change room with lockers, a computer room and lots of storage space.

And that's only the inside.

Outside the building there's enough parking for 100 new cars and trucks to be on display, plus 25 used vehicles and the 25 vehicles owned by the staff. "That's 150 cars so you need a lot of space, which is why we're pretty excited about it," says Popple, one of the owners of the GM dealership.

As Curry Motors grew over the years, it ran out of room on its northeast corner lot on main street. Cars were parked across the street and then up the road at the old MTO garage. Popple can't wait to have the office, service bays and outdoor showroom all at the same location.

The building was designed by Harry Pellow of Pellow and Associates. Pellow has a cottage on Koshlong Lake and has been a Curry Motors customer for years so it was a perfect fit. Much of the design, including the drive-in, was done to GM's specification, with a lot of input from the local dealership.

"It's a pretty nice piece of property that will display the product well," Popple says. Curry Motors bought the property a couple of years ago when Loblaw's became interested in the site of the former body shop for the new Independent Grocer's. The building is angled towards the village and, as Popple says, "You'll have a hard time missing it."

With the drywalling starting late last week, the work crew will soon be able to move in from the increasingly colder outdoors. They are hoping to have the new building ready by mid-January.

The current home of Curry Motors was built in 1949 and it is for sale. Popple is hoping that whoever buys the building will keep the unique building.

MARTHA PERKINS/ECHO



After spending the last few years in the cramped quarters of Curry Motors' downtown location, Don Popple still can't believe how much room the GM dealership will have when its new facility on Cty. Rd. 21 is open in mid-January. The construction has been awarded to Greystone Project Management and Custom Builders. At left, Popple watches general superintendent Darrin Miles prepare the huge parking lot for paving. When it's complete, there will be room for 150 vehicles.

Highlands East taken to task over state of Lloyd Watson Centre

LANCE CROSSLEY

Staff Reporter

Community groups are not happy with the sad state of the Lloyd Watson Centre and are demanding that the municipality of Highlands East take action now.

"It's disgusting," said Joan Clark, a member of the Wilberforce Ladies Auxiliary, at the Nov. 22 council meeting. Clark was joined by nine other women, including representatives from the Wilberforce United Church and the Wilberforce Agricultural Society.

The delegation gave council an earful about the community centre's lack of equipment, general disrepair, and its unsanitary conditions. Clark was particularly upset by a recent funeral luncheon for long time resident Warren Bowen, which more than 140 people attended. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary had to hurriedly clean up the decrepit state of the community centre before guests arrived, not to mention their primary duties of preparing sandwiches and sweets. The state of the coffee and teapots was apparently so bad that members had to bring their own.

Having already put their complaints in

writing, the Wilberforce groups appeared to be running out of patience with the issue.

"We would like a response to these letters," urged Clark.



Joan Clark let council know that community groups are not happy with the state of the Lloyd Watson community centre in Wilberforce.

Other pressing concerns regarding the state of the centre paint an even worse picture: a refrigerator that reportedly doesn't get cold enough, causing food to spoil and forcing users to transport items to fridges in other buildings; bathrooms that have repeatedly been called "disgusting" by the various groups; mop buckets full of dirt and dust that sits until the next group needs to use the facility;

and drains in the handicapped bathroom sink that leak profusely onto the floor. Clark reported seeing mouse feces in the kitchen cupboards.

Many of the elderly members of community groups also have trouble setting up the heavy chairs and tables for events.

"Some of the tables are not clean and some are broken," said Clark.

Reeve Keith Tallman said that council will have to review the situation but added that they rent out the facility with the understanding that people will clean up everything when they are finished.

"Maybe part of our fault is not ensuring people are doing this," conceded Tallman.

Tallman also said it would be considerable cost to the municipality to hire someone to take care of the Lloyd Watson Centre full time.

Councillor Rick Forget suggested that the groups notify the municipality in advance if they think they will need help with setting up chairs and tables. Clark acknowledged the idea but said with funeral events there isn't much time for advanced notice.

"Definitely council has to take an initiative but the groups that use the facility certainly have a responsibility," said Forget.

Tourists want more than a pretty destination

LANCE CROSSLEY

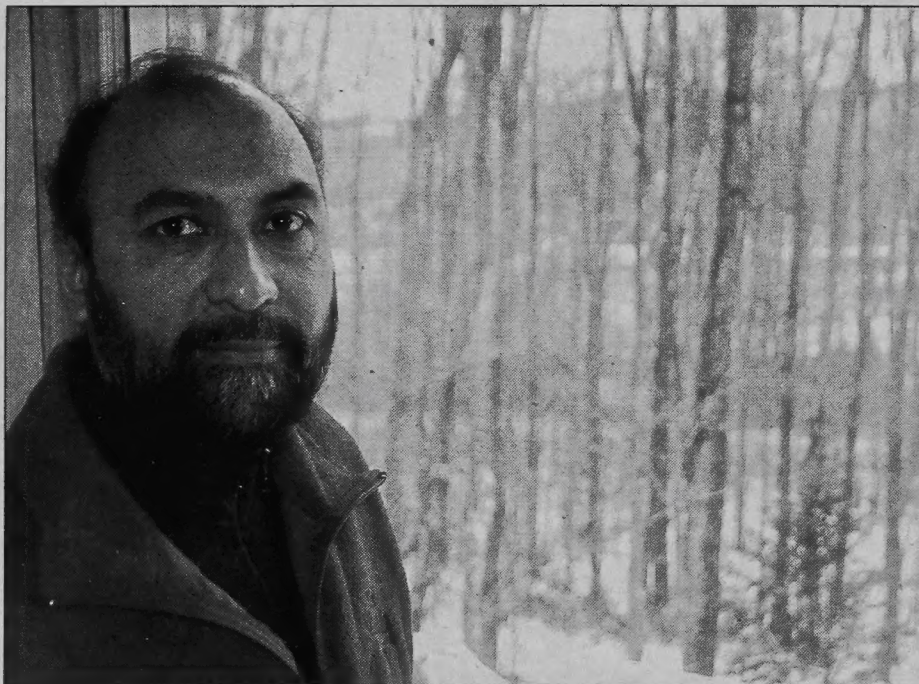
Staff Reporter

The whole 'tour Europe in seven days' phenomenon has almost become archaic in this global age. Satellite television has taken much of the mystique away from travel by giving us in-depth virtual tours of every destination imaginable. This may help explain why a new way of thinking about travel, sometimes called 'enrichment travel' or 'experiential tourism', is gaining increasing popularity – which could be good news for destinations like Haliburton County.

"People have done the bus tour and cruise thing. Now they are hungry for something at a deeper level," says Celes Davar, who lent his tourism expertise as a speaker at Eco-Synergy, a conference for tourism professionals held at Fleming College's Haliburton campus this past weekend.

Davar owns a learning adventure company in Manitoba called Earth Rhythms. Perched on the edge of Riding Mountain National Park, about three hours from Winnipeg, Earth Rhythms customizes travel experiences that are out of the ordinary.

One of its packages involves taking a group of people out to the middle of a frozen lake – making them comfortable with sleeping bags, lawn chairs, and hot drinks – and having an astronomer use a 25,000 foot green laser beam to illuminate the constellations. Another offbeat creation is converting a national park picnic site into a fine dining experience, complete with on-site gourmet chefs – an experience people shell out \$125 a head for.



LANCE CROSSLEY/ECHO

Tourism operator Celes Davar, who describes himself as an "experience broker", creates out of the ordinary travel ideas for his clients.

"[My company] owns nothing," says Davar. "We own no infrastructure. What we own are ideas. We take those ideas and we create packaged concepts by using the infrastructure that's all around us."

Davar describes himself as an "experience broker", bringing together various partners of his community in unconventional ways. Partnering with local musicians, aboriginal elders, astronomers, and chefs, Davar provides a value-added travel experience for the consumer. It's a break from the traditional notions of tourism because it builds rela-

tionships between enterprises that traditionally viewed the other as competition.

"You're not in competition," says Davar. "The destination that competes with Haliburton is really Whistler."

To revolutionize a community's tourism paradigm, Davar says you need a few well-respected local leaders to spearhead the experiment, people who can find the locale's "sense of place" and discover the niche it can fill.

After working a number of years with Parks Canada, Davar says that when he first started his business 10 years ago he

thought it would be a wildlife adventure company. After six weeks of the phone not ringing, he realized that people who go after wildlife know how to do things cheap and on their own.

It was then that he directed his product toward the corporate sector and group travellers, focusing his business vision on three main principles: customization, experiential, and learning.

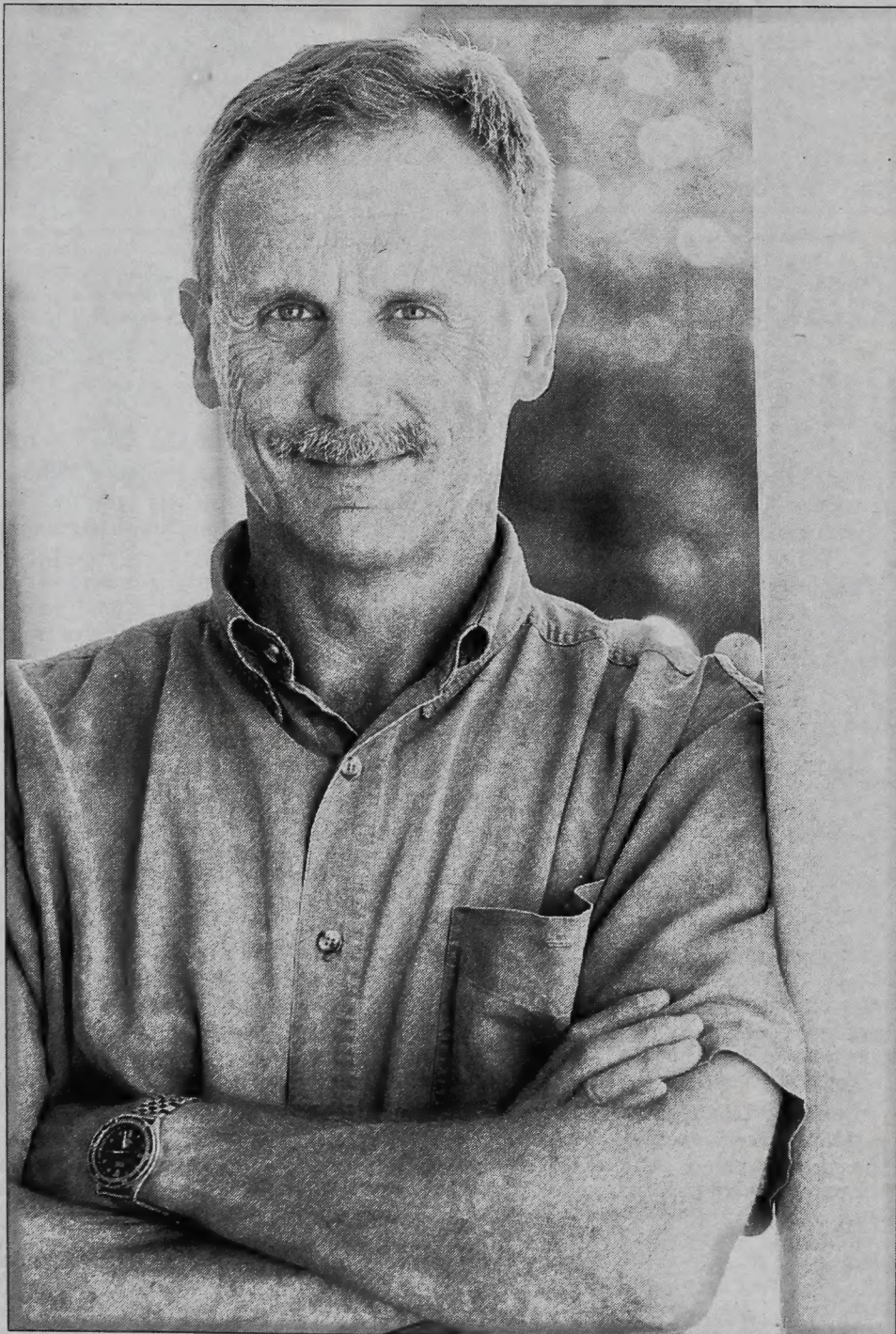
Davar says he saw that travellers had the desire to immerse themselves in the authenticity of the local experience, including its regional cuisines and wines.

"There is definitely a hunger for using the senses to be able to appreciate the place."

Davar cites a number of factors for this shift in how people travel, one of which is demographics. Many people today have the money and are already seasoned world travellers. They now want things closer to home – most of Davar's clients come from Manitoba and Saskatchewan – and with a value-added component.

Most economic development agencies and business owners have a formulaic approach to tourism, says Davar, and invest millions into infrastructure costs. Davar thinks the next step for places like Haliburton, which already have a strong base of tourism resources, is to start connecting the dots:

"How can you take the existing community capital by simply using your imagination? How do you create new ideas by which you cobble together the partners in the community to become part of a new experience?"



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THE
ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

The Times
MINDEN ONTARIO

Passersby keep woman calm as firefighters cut her out of Jeep

from page 1

seeing the Jeep, which was lying on its passenger side.

Fearrey asked her to call 911 and get a fire extinguisher and had McKelvey stay at the road to direct traffic.

Down at the Jeep, Fearrey realized quickly that the dog was dead and knelt down to talk to Jones, who was still strapped in her seatbelt. There was a lot of blood and Fearrey was instantly relieved when Jones responded to his questions.

Although he works in hospitals, dealing with health emergencies "is not one of my better qualities. It was very traumatic."

The first thing Jones asked was whether her beautiful 10-year-old German shepherd was okay. To keep her calm, Fearrey told her the dog was okay and asked her her name.

It was then he noticed the flames coming from the engine. By this time the neighbour had returned and he asked her to run home again to find an old fire extinguisher (Fearrey hadn't even noticed the hydro pole and therefore didn't panic about the risk of electrocution.)

He emptied the fire extinguisher and then noticed an orange glow near the dashboard. "What will I do now," he asked himself.

Fearing the fire had started up again,



DARREN LUM/ECHO

Dysart firefighters use the Jaws of Life to cut Val Jones out of her Jeep after she careened into a hydro pole in a ditch on County Road 1 near South Kashagawigamog Lake Road. The Minden resident suffered severe facial injuries and her beloved German Shepherd was killed in the accident.

he ran up the embankment and he and McKelvey flagged down a sand and gravel truck driven by Bill Hogg, knowing that Hogg was required to carry an extinguisher.

When he got back to the Jeep, however, he realized that the glow had come from lights within the Jeep.

Thinking he had done all he could and knowing that both Dysart firefighters and passerby Leslie Chumbley were on the scene, Fearrey left.

Chumbley stayed with Jones during the commotion of the fire and the half hour it took the Dysart firefighters to cut their way through the Jeep to rescue her.

"I just knew I couldn't leave her," Chumbley says. "I just held her hand

and talked to her."

Val Jones says she was very glad of Chumbley's calming presence and that Chumbley had the presence of mind to keep her talking so she wouldn't slip into unconsciousness.

"It provided a little diversion when all I would have known was confusion and pain," she says. "She grounded me so that I was aware of 'here I am and this is what I must do.' I focused on what she was telling me."

After the Dysart firefighters had removed Jones from the Jeep, she was taken to Haliburton Hospital and later airlifted to Sunnybrook hospital in Toronto. She had surgery on her face - doctors feared nerve damage - and was

released on Friday. She will have plastic surgery in the future.

"She's pretty banged up," Rheta Jones says. "It will be a slow process."

The dog was one of four pets that Val brought with her to Minden when she moved in with her mother following a divorce. Tristan was the last surviving friend. "He loved to go everywhere with her," Rheta says.

Both mother and daughter are extremely grateful for the care Val received during her entire ordeal.

Val doesn't remember what caused her to lose control of the Jeep.

Fearrey now vows to always carry a fire extinguisher in his vehicle and advises others to do the same.

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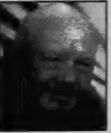
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A fond farewell

It's a strangely disorienting feeling to be working on the last *Haliburton County Echo* that will carry my name on the masthead as publisher. I am writing these words with a swirl of emotions: elation and sadness, anticipation and uncertainty, but above all, gratitude for a rewarding career, and for the people with whom I have shared the journey of a life's work.

When I wrote my first story for a community newspaper twenty-nine years ago, in Seaford, Ontario I harboured no

echo

editorial

len pizzey

began, at minimum wage, to write features and news for a small town weekly. A year later, in 1978, I was hired as editor of *The Haliburton County Echo*, and so began a job that, by chance and good fortune, became the focus of my life.

In the ensuing years, the newspaper, like the community it serves, has changed greatly. It was a broadsheet for the first decade of my involvement, and then evolved into its present tabloid format. Assembling it used to demand brutal hours of labour that often stretched well past midnight. For more than 20 years, my Sunday afternoons and evenings were spent developing films and printing pictures. Now *The Echo* and *The Times* are created on computer screens and sent to press through the Internet. The hours are a little less demanding, and the product looks neater and more professional than it did when the process was more physical, but in its fundamental aspects, *The Echo* has not changed. Then, as now, it demands extraordinary dedication from its staff, who view the newspaper not just as a product to be churned out week after week to a relentless and unalterable deadline, but also as a reflection of who they are and what they care about. The depth of their commitment to the newspaper, and to the community it serves, has been the foundation on which *The Echo* has been built.

When I purchased the newspaper in 1985, I had no dream of where that decision would lead. I only knew that I loved the work, I liked Haliburton, and I had a burning desire to accomplish something meaningful in which I could take quiet pride. In the ensuing years I have been rewarded in ways that I did not imagine and could not have anticipated.

Now, as I embark on a new adventure and a different way of life, trading obligation for opportunity, I am grateful for the good fortune that life in Haliburton has afforded.

I appreciate the goodwill that the community has shown toward *The Echo* and *The Times*. Community newspapers may have a high public profile, but they are unalterably a business which succeeds or fails based on the strength of the partnership between advertisers who provide most of the papers' revenue, readers who make it a part of their lives, and the community which provides the material out of which the content is made. The extraordinary regard in which *The Echo* in particular is held in the community newspaper industry, as the recipient of close to 200 provincial and national awards, would not have been achieved without the support of the community, and for that, I will always be grateful.

Above all, it has been a wonderful privilege to share my working life with extraordinarily talented, hard-working, disciplined, fundamentally good and loving people who have supported me, helped me, challenged me, and taught me that humility is at the heart of leadership.

In the months and years to come, I will contribute in other ways to the community that has made my journey possible. It is my sincere hope that in the years ahead, *The Echo* and *The Times* can continue to build and enrich the community in ways that no other media can.



Signs of Christmas on main street

Photo by DARREN LUM/ECHO

From the outside in

Why? Why was it that each immigrant group, upon arrival in this new land, had to struggle to be woven into the fabric of our society. *SLAINTE!* (Gaelic for 'Cheers') subliminally asks this question. Written by Robert Ainsworth with music and lyrics by Paul Crough, it is an original production for the St. James Players who performed it in Peterborough during November. It was a delightful musical and a reflective glimpse into the Irish arrival in this land.. For me it was thought-provoking.

Was it just an aberration or is there something basic to our nature that leads to our resistance to newcomers? It's a question I have often asked myself. It was particularly pertinent to me while watching that performance. Some of my ancestors would have, by that time, been the prospering farmers when the Irish, fleeing from oppressive landowners and virtual starvation, came in waves to various regions of Eastern Canada. My ancestors, too, had earlier fled from oppression - religious oppression - because they were Dissenters, not members of the state Anglican denomination. They came to a virgin land - at least according to the stories passed down through the generations, (native Indians in those days not figuring in the equation). Once established, probably for a couple of generations, had they forgotten?

The first generation of Irish when they came, according to my family lore, had two basic flaws: one terrible, 'they drank', the other nearly unforgivable, 'they were not Protestants'. I used to laugh at my long-dead ancestors' narrow-mindedness for it was all so illogical. The Irish by then were well-integrated in our family, aunts and others being much loved and honoured.

It seems that each wave of immigrants flee-

ing from their own horrors still goes through that figurative trial by fire in order to become part of our world yet remain openly proud of their past heritage. In truth, we do seem to do better than many other lands but we are far from perfect.

If such treatment is fundamental to our nature, however, then do we need to attack it at its roots? We have overcome our basic flaws to some extent when it comes to punishing others when they do not abide by our

laws. It is no longer acceptable to cut off a hand for stealing; we no longer make executions a public festival. We, at least in our world, have taught ourselves to be horrified at such behaviour.

Maybe, with all the public emphasis deploring our long tradition of communal prejudices - right back to the founding of this land as *SLAINTE!* recalled for its audience - we are learning. Yet at a more mundane level the char-

acteristic remains. It's easy to see it in our youth with their cliques that let them label others as outsiders.. Were these young people born with the need not only to belong but also to be exclusive so that others may envy them, or has the home been the source of this teenage game that seems more endemic or at least more obvious than ever before?

In most every aspect of adult life we have the insiders and the others. What if we all played a game? For one week all blonde-haired women would be declared outsiders; another week it might be men with mustaches; another week all blue-eyed people; another week all those who are gainfully employed; and on and on until we all, adults and kids alike, begin to understand the feeling that comes from being excluded for some aspect of ourselves that makes us as we are.

Oh, by the way, what criteria are required to establish someone as a Haliburtonian?



marion hare

perspectives

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THE
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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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All souped up

I'm not sure why it is, but most men seem to have this deep-seated need to experience danger. Some feed the urge by taking up luge, skydiving, or ski jumping; others join mountain climbing expeditions, book safaris, or even run naked through a field of burdocks. Me, I hang around the kitchen.

Just last week, in fact, I was sitting there picking out burdocks and thinking that it had been a while since I'd felt the kind of adrenalin rush that comes from staring death straight in the eye. Luckily, at precisely that moment, my wife brought me some soup for lunch.

Before I continue, I should explain that my wife is an incredibly good cook. More than that, she loves cooking and prides herself on her considerable culinary skills. Of course, that's why I play along and pretend to be a real good eater. The truth is, I only ask for seconds or thirds because I know it means so much to her. You do stuff like that for the people you love - especially at dessert time.

So there I was with a deadly hankering for peril when, without warning, Carol brought me soup. Hot soup.

I don't think I'm bragging when I point out that lesser men would have taken immediate measures to cool the soup down - maybe add an ice cube or some

crackers into the fray. But not me, I stared that soup bowl down like you would a charging Cape buffalo. The only difference was that I didn't mess my pants.

As I looked at the hot liquid and the numerous, jagged vegetables, I couldn't help but feel alive. And then, after a minimum of fanning, I bravely lowered my spoon. I guess you could say that ice water runs through my veins.

You'd think that'd be more than enough excitement for one day, huh? I mean, as I put the spoon to my lips, my whole life flashed before my eyes. That soup was hot I tell you.

Call me a reckless thrill seeker but I then went and took it one step further.

"How's the soup?" Carol asked.

Suddenly, my derring-do with blunt cutlery seemed like mere child's play. Here was my chance. What happened next would have won me, possibly posthumously, a Victoria Cross if Carol and I were at war, which we weren't up until then.

"It's good..." I uttered hesitantly. "Yes, very good...."

"But what? Needs salt? More onions?"

"Needs nothing," I replied, while staring down at my spoon. "Mmmmmmm."

"Steven," she said, "I want you to tell me the truth."

Right there and then I should have known that she was lying.

"Well, it's great soup," I continued, "but it's still not as good as your mother's."

Despite global warming, there was a sudden and noticeable chill in the kitchen which, to be honest, made me appreciate the hot soup all the more.

Something that Carol never took into account during sentencing, I might add.

Later that evening, while making myself comfortable on the couch, I came to realize a thing or two. The main thing is that the question she posed was the culinary equivalent of asking, "Do these pants make my butt look big?"

There was no right answer.

I mean, you'd think she would have been happy that I said something nice about her mother. And it's not like I said her soup was bad. Hey, I'm into danger, not death.

Anyhow, the next day, at lunch, she brought me another bowl of soup.

"Here, try this," she smiled happily.

"Uh, could you taste it first?" I asked nervously.

Why is it that the right words are so hard to find?

It turned out that the soup was great, even as cold as it was. And, as I finished my second bowl, it suddenly occurred to me that, yes, my critical acclaim of her mother's soup agitated my wife. But it also went and raised the bar. It gave her something to shoot for. Besides me, I mean.

The gauntlet had been thrown down and this practically forced her to come up with a better effort just so she could prove me wrong. Which of course is the foundation of every meaningful relationship known to man.

The next few days saw me eating some of the finest soup on the planet. In fact, even as I write this column I'm finishing up a bowl of a fine beef broth made by my dear wife. And, this time, not in the woodshed either.

In a sense, I guess, I did my wife a favour. My honest criticism spurred her on to bigger and better things. Then again, I guess that's what happens when you stir the pot.



steve
galea

Vinegar Hill



pic of the past

Community bands are a long-standing tradition in Haliburton County. This past weekend, the newest of those groups, the Highlands Silver Flutes, marched in the Haliburton Santa Claus parade. Pictured above is the Haliburton Citizens Band as it was exactly 100 years ago. Standing are John Adams, Sid Johnston, bandmaster, and Walter Austin. Seated from left are: William Lucas, Frank Austin, Jack Potts, George Potts, Garnet Austin, Harry Abbot, James Weekes, Frank McIntyre, T. Jones, William Prust and Edward Austin.

letters to the editor

Feeling a community's spirit

To the Editor:

In answer to the letter from Stephen Woof, yes Dysart's by-law officer is overworked. He is overworked due in a big way from the extraordinary number of complaints that Mr. Woof phoned in to the municipality. It is well known in the community that Mr. Woof disapproves of the work habits of some of his neighbours and has expressed his discontent from the time he entered our community by repeatedly calling the municipality every time something does not suit him.

Mr. Woof's claim that the owner of the property he is complaining about is breaking the bylaw is questionable. The owner is not operating a business from this property. Mr. Woof alleges that the owners of the property have destroyed little berry bushes and small trees. Unless Mr. Woof has trespassed on the property, how can he make such a statement? To my knowledge there has never been a great number of small trees or berry bushes on the front portion of this property for many years because at one time this was a farm and a barn sat on the portion of the lot he is complaining about. How many trees and berry bushes were destroyed when Mr. Wood's house was built on his current property?

The current owner has allowed neighbours to park vehicles, equipment and logs free of charge at different times throughout the year. My husband is one of those who has received permission to use this property to transfer logs from one truck to another, free of charge. He does not do this on a regular basis but has found it very convenient, especially during the winter months when it is difficult for tractor/trailer trucks to

access bush roads. This is the neighbourly way and it is indicative of how country people help each other out.

Among the many inaccurate statements is Mr. Woof's letter was the claim that he had approached the property owner to discuss his concerns. The property owner had the backbone to visit Mr. Woof at his home to discuss the matter but was unable to have a reasonable discussion with him.

Mr. Woof has even complained about heavy trucks that are driving by on the county road in front of his property. His complaint is that they are making a noise when gearing up and down. Maybe he can have the municipality charged for running their municipal trucks in front of his home. How does he expect various types of vehicles to operate such as logging vehicles transporting logs to the mills in order to build houses, furniture, firewood, etc., and how does he expect trucks transporting food to the local stores deliver their goods, and how does he expect the municipality to deliver sand and gravel to improve our roads, and how does he expect busses to transport our children to and from school, and how does he expect the sanders and snowplow to do their jobs, etc., etc., etc.? All of these vehicles are fuelled by a diesel engine and most have a manual transmission.

Regarding the "constant drone of a diesel front end loader," once again Mr. Woof exaggerates the amount of time a loader operated on this property and the noise it generates.

Mr. Woof should have lived in Guilford a few years ago when the head of just about every

See **Neighbours** page 8

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur



Neighbours realize that everyone has to make a living

from page 7

household was a trucker and a truck sat in many driveways in the community. My husband is a logger and in the winter he works long hours. He leaves very early in the morning and has to warm his truck up prior to leaving. Some years ago a house was built very close to ours and not once have they complained to us about the noise of our truck. Our neighbours realize that everyone has to earn a living and this is the way we provide for our family.

Any reasonable person living on a county road would realize that roads are not there for just quiet bicycles and small automobiles but are also there for day-to-day truck traffic that supplies our economy. Why do people move to a neighbourhood without checking out the location? This piece of property was there when he purchased his and in relatively the same state as it is today and with the same amount of activity as today. Why does he feel his neighbours should have to live their lives according to his wishes? Most of his neighbours have been lifelong residents of this community and have never felt the need to pester the municipality or their neighbours over such a trivial matter.

Speaking of lifelong residents, the other local families who homesteaded this area must feel slighted by Mr. Woof's description of the family being charged as the "prominent family" and "untouchable." I don't believe that any family in this area consider themselves "prominent" or "untouchable" only hard working, neighbourly people.

Lastly, I would like to point out to Mr. Woof that the property owner he has complained about has not been fined, he has only been charged with an infraction of a bylaw. Only a judge can determine if the bylaw has been broken and if so levy a fine. The burden of proof is on the municipality. It might be a tough case for them to prove. I hope our taxpayers' dollars are not in jeopardy by charging one taxpayer to placate another taxpayer in order to stop his complaining.

This is a classic example of people moving from a busy community to an area such as the Highlands expecting to find the elusive tranquility they dream of but at the same time expecting to receive the same economic benefits and services. Unless you are willing to move to the Arctic and become totally self-sufficient this is not possible. My advice to the Mr. Woofs of this world would be to find a secluded spot that suits them on this earth and separate themselves from people who consider the person who lives next to them their neighbour. Slow but sure newcomers such as Mr. Woof will try and change our community spirit but I hope I do not live long enough to see it happen in West Guilford.

Carol Stamp,
West Guilford

Remembrance a shared experience

To the Editor:

We at the Haliburton Legion wish to thank everyone who shared their time with us on November 11th, remembering our fallen Comrades and those who live on. Whether by simply wearing a Poppy or attending the service at the Cenotaph, no matter how or why, each of us have good reasons to be thankful for the sacrifices made by a generation of young people so many years ago.

Throughout 2005, we have celebrated "The Year of The Veteran" commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War 2.

Many vets, those still able to travel, returned to the battlefields of Europe and Asia, to visit the graves of their fallen comrades and parade through the towns and villages they fought to liberate. In the cemeteries (so immaculately kept by the grateful people of countries liberated by our troops) many a tear was shed as old men remembered the horrors of what they went through at a time when they should have been enjoying their youth, the memories of friends just like themselves who now rest in the ground, beside which they stand.

Likewise around the oceans of the world, wreaths have been cast upon the sea in memory of the sailors

and airmen who died at sea and have no marked grave.

We remember too, those that spent years in prisoner of war camps and suffered at the hands of their captors. We remember the millions of people that perished in concentration camps. We remember all of the civilians forced to flee their homes, the women and children who endured the ceaseless bombing raids, yet bravely tried to maintain some semblance of sanity and normality in a world gone crazy. Yes indeed, we need to remember!

During the past few months, Branch 129 has participated in several Legion parades throughout the Province. It was so gratifying to see big crowds lining the sidewalks, clapping and cheering these proud old Vets as they stepped out to the skirl of the Pipes, heads held high, a chest full of medals glinting in the sun, just as if once more they were marching off to war.

The "Poppy" is not only a commemoration of the past, it is a reminder to each generation, that the freedom we take for granted came with a price, and should we become complacent, that freedom may once again seek an even higher price.

Brian Hambly
Sergeant at Arms,
Branch 129, Royal Canadian Legion, Haliburton

Property evaluation system is broken

To the Editor:

When you look properties in the city, there is a lot of commonality. Within a given district, homes were usually built by the same developer. A small number of plans were used by that developer, so one four-bedroom house is quite similar (if not identical) to another four-bedroom house. Lot sizes are also quite similar, if not identical.

Therefore, when one property is sold, it is reasonable to assume that other similar properties in that area are worth a similar amount.

This is the assumption that MPAC uses when assessing properties, and in a city the system seems to work. But does this system work in a rural or vacation setting?

Drive along any street in Haliburton and look for similar properties. Each home seems different and each lot is also different.

Then drive along a county road and look for similar properties. Here, the differences are even more pronounced.

Finally, drive along cottage roads and look for similar properties. On any lake, it is almost impossible to find two properties that are similar, let alone identical. Each shoreline is different. Each cottage setting and layout is different. Each lot size and features are different. Therefore, each assessed value must also be different.

As Julie Gray stated in a recent article in *The Echo*, "there is no definitive relationship between MPAC assessments and the actual value of properties."

The assessment system that works so well in a city, does not work at all in a rural or cottage setting. Without on-site inspections, it is impossible to determine the fair market price for a rural or cottage property. Random inspections (of a few properties on a lake) are not enough. Yet this is the method that MPAC is using to determine property values.

Just as it is impossible for MPAC to use random inspections and computer simulations to determine property values, it is also impossible for property owners to find similar properties to appeal their assessments. This explains why it takes MPAC so long to provide a 'Comparables Report', which is a list of similar properties, which property owners can use when appealing their property.

The evaluation system is broken. Instead of merely appealing property assessments, it is time that property owners began to appeal the whole assessment process. I will be writing about this issue, to the Ombudsman's Office and several provincial politicians. I hope that others do the same.

Dennis Choptiany
Koshlong Lake
More letters on page 9



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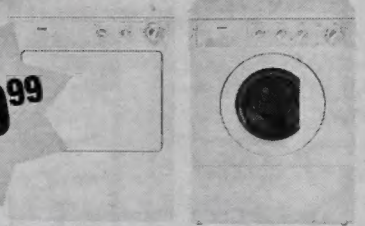
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Cottagers couldn't attend meetings because MPAC's notice inadequate

To the Editor:

I would like to comment on the article by Lance Crossley about the MPAC meetings. How can we cottagers attend the MPAC meetings when we do not know about them?

Let me explain. The meetings were likely posted in *The Echo*, which is always late. I know that you mail them on time but the post office does not deliver them on time. We bought property on Little Redstone Lake in the late 1970s. Since we were interested in the area we ordered *The Echo* soon after. In all the intervening years we always received the paper a week later. It is not unusual to receive the paper two or three weeks late. In fact several times (once or twice this fall) we would

receive three papers in one week and sometimes all three papers at once. Only once in all this time did we receive the paper the same week it was printed and that was the last paper November 8, 2005.

I feel with all the taxes we are paying that we should have been informed by letter by MPAC or our local council of these meetings. According to an indepth meeting I had at the MPAC offices the assessments are being raised because the councils (politicians) are asking them for more money. So this is why I say either MPAC or council should have notified us.

Jane Carson,
Brooklin



Silver Flutes make county proud

To the Editor:

We're writing this at 5:23 Sunday afternoon (Nov. 20) while watching the Toronto Santa Claus Parade on Television.

Thank you Haliburton Silver Flutes for

once again making us proud to live in Haliburton. We look forward to seeing you whenever you perform. Keep up the great work.

The Stewart Family,
Haliburton



Jingle,
baby,
jingle

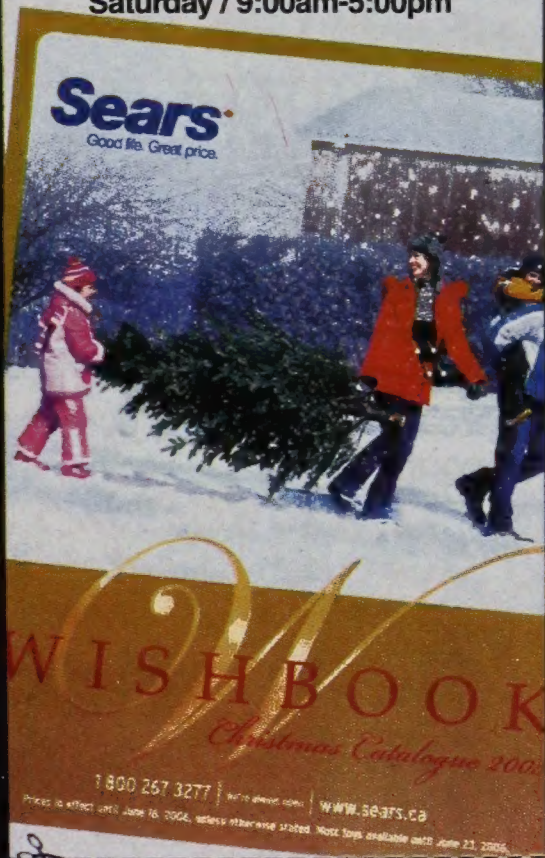
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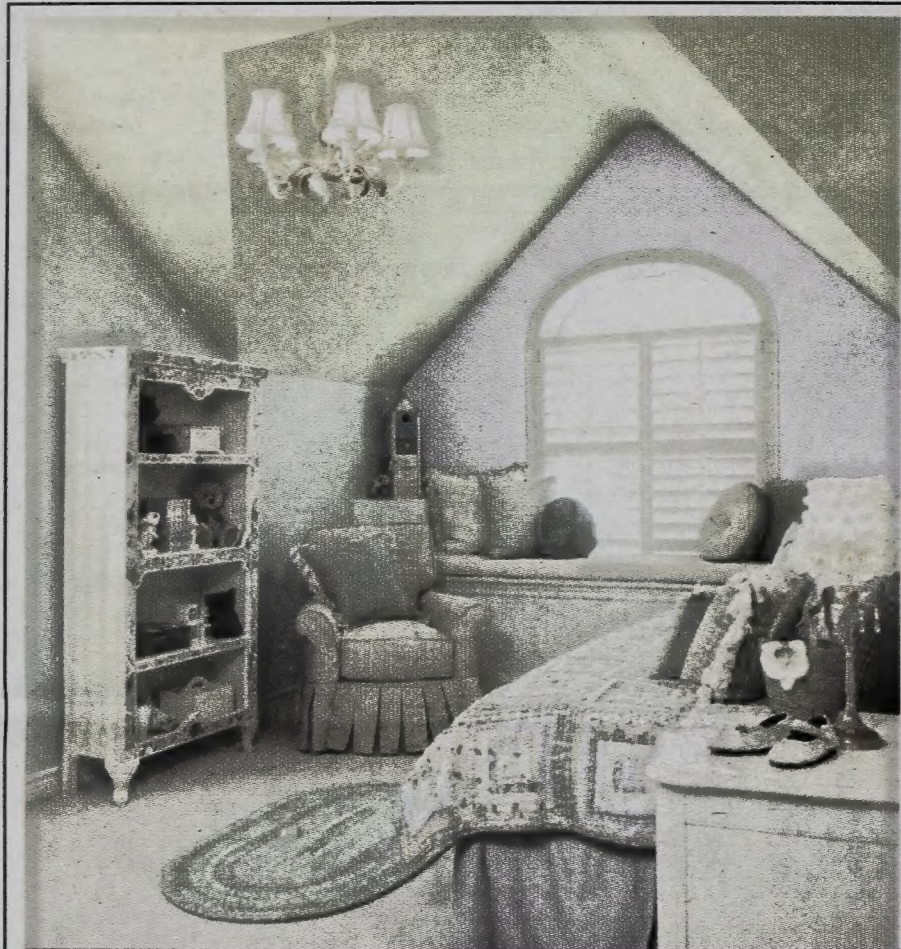
Children found it hard to contain excitement.



The Haliburton Legion's colour party marches by the United Church.



The parade was sweetened with smiles.



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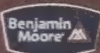
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Dave Webster and Cathy Olliffe cheered on the crowd on the *Echo* and *Times* float.



IGA's float harkened back to the community values of Highlands life.

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Chuck Golden leads the Kawartha Cavaliers in a rousing instrumental Christmas carol.



The Red Hat Ladies added a splash of colour.



Carly Shaw as Pebbles handed out candy in advance of the Domain of Killien's Flintstones float.

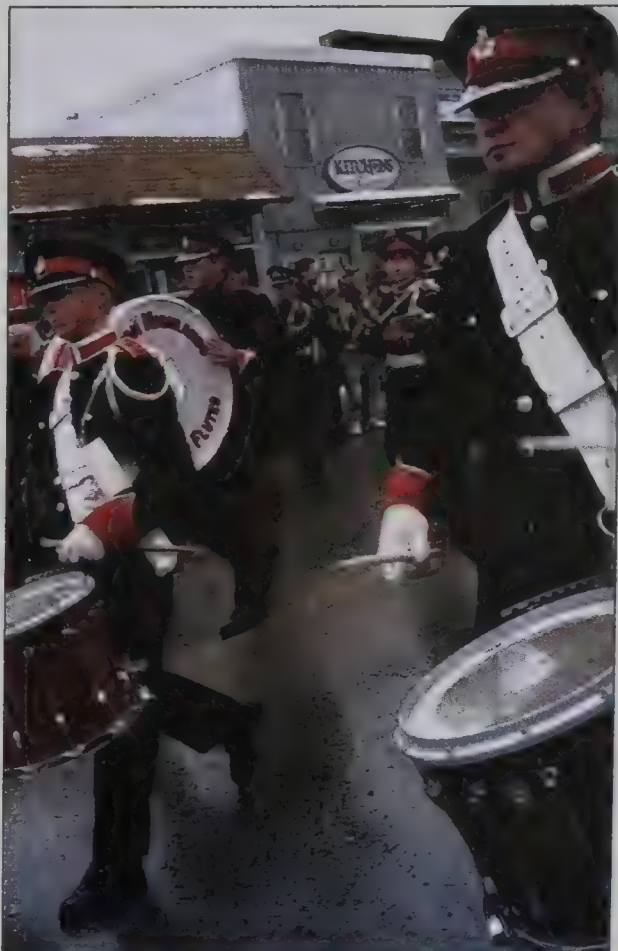


With their youthful energy and music, Haliburton Dance Arts participants made everyone want to dance.

Sunny faces lined the Haliburton streets under cloudy skies during the annual Santa Claus Parade on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 27. There were 26 floats and more than 300 people, including four bands (Blue Saints from Sudbury, Bracebridge Pipes & Drums, Kawartha Cavaliers from Lindsay and Haliburton Highlands own Silver Flutes), as well as Santa, that followed the route from the Rotary Beach parking lot then to Maple Ave., down Victoria St., up Pine St. and down Highland St. The Blue Saints from Sudbury came the farthest away. MP Barry Devolin joined the parade. Dave Howe, parade chairman, was pleased with the event.



Pulled along by his reindeer, Santa flew into Haliburton to share his warm wishes from the North Pole with the hundreds of people who lined the streets. Santa Claus certainly lived up to his reputation as a Jolly St. Nick.



Fresh from the Santa Claus Parade in Toronto, the Haliburton Highlands Silver Flutes delighted the crowd with their festive music.

For the latest information, visit us at gmcanada.com, drop by your local Chevrolet dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. *No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence. Contest closes January 3, 2006. Awards can only be applied to the purchase or lease of any new 2005 and 2006 vehicles, excluding Medium Duty Trucks, purchased and delivered out of dealer stock on or before January 3, 2006. Potential award recipients must correctly answer a skill-testing question. Not all awards have the same odds of winning, and the odds of winning most vehicle awards are 1 in 1,000,000. Odds of winning a \$10,000 cash award are 1 in 1,000,000. Odds of winning a \$500 cash award are 1 in 100,000. Odds of winning a \$100 cash award are 1 in 10,000. Odds of winning a \$50 cash award are 1 in 1,000. Odds of winning a \$25 cash award are 1 in 500. Odds of winning a \$10 cash award are 1 in 250. 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Finger-wagging won't work with teens

from page 1

plays presented information about drug and alcohol abuse. Raising awareness among youth is particularly appropriate when one considers the results of a 2003 drug use survey, which found that approximately 30 per cent of students in Ontario admitted to using marijuana.

Alcohol is still the number one drug of choice among youth, with 66 per cent of Ontario students reporting its consumption during the previous 12 months. Cigarettes rank third, with slightly less than a fourth of students reporting smoking during the previous year. Although tobacco smoking is a little down on the list, it still remains a primary concern for health workers because the vast majority of smokers start the habit before the age of 19.

At HHSS, health promoters employed interactive games to engage students, including one station aimed at tobacco awareness that had a roulette wheel. Students took their best shot at answering a smoker's trivia question and were then treated to spin the wheel for a small prize such as an educational bookmark or t-shirt.

The alcohol awareness station had students attempt to play darts while wearing goggles that distorted their vision, an exercise that demonstrated the hazards of impaired driving by illustrating



Health promoter Sue Shikaze ran a tobacco roulette wheel to help educate HHSS students during Drug Awareness Week.

the reality of reduced motor skills.

This kind of interactive education appears to bear more fruit than moralistic finger pointing:

"If it's stuff like smoker's roulette and the drunk goggles, it doesn't feel like preaching because it's kind of fun," says Lindsay Jowett, a 14-year-old student.

"And they aren't making you come here. You choose to," says Kirsten Bradley, 14, referring to the health unit's open house in the school's front hall.

Sue Shikaze, a health promoter with the health unit, says youth are sophisticated enough to know when they are being condescended to.

"It's important to acknowledge that

youth are capable of making informed choices," says Shikaze. "Who is going to listen to an adult saying, 'You shouldn't do that because it's bad for you.'"

Despite cultural changes in how drugs are regarded, Pettinnella says it still all comes down to having an open and honest relationship between the parent and child. A recent poll by Health Canada indicates that 87 per cent of young people said they would trust their parents for information on marijuana.

"Talking to your teenager about drugs is not as difficult as you think," says Pettinnella. "To say nothing is even worse because you are ignoring an issue that teens are bound to encounter."

Some straight talk on marijuana and drug use for parents

Educate Yourself: Learn about alcohol and other drugs. Become familiar with the types of drugs teens are using today. Understand the consequences of taking drugs.

Be a good example: Your behaviour can greatly influence your children's behaviour. Evaluate your own level of alcohol consumption and use of medications and other drugs.

Help your teens feel good about themselves: young people who feel good about themselves are less likely to try drugs and alcohol. Communicate with them regularly about their lives, listen to them and encourage them. Teach them how to make good decisions by looking at a problem, thinking about the choices available and the results that come with those choices. Let them know you love them.

Be part of their lives: Make time for your teens. Take an interest in their interests. Get to know their friends. Do things together, even if it's just eating one meal together every day.

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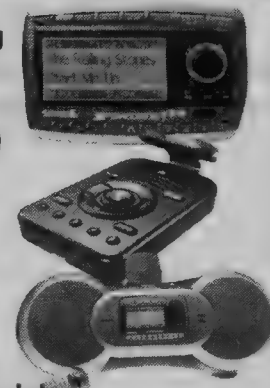
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Brendan Berube was brilliant as Juliane Van Lieshout's sardonic boyfriend.



Theatre novices like Mike Jaycock, right, are every actor's nightmare. Peter Forgrave manages to keep his disdainful composure.



Kris Kadwell and Roseanne Nichol had comedic turns acting as father and daughter in play within a play.

Every wintry night should be Opening Night

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

If anything could be better than going to the Northern Lights Pavilion for a good laugh on a chilly November evening, it would be coming back for an encore performance on an even colder February evening. The winter blahs would surely be blown away by the light-hearted antics on stage.

Last Thursday was opening night for the Highlands Little Theatre's production of *Opening Night*, an engaging comedy by Norm Foster. With its fast one-liners and characters that poke fun at "theatre types", it's hard to take anything seriously – except having fun, of course.

But as the playbill says, comedy is serious business. What made the production even more gratifying was maturity of the

performances, even by newcomers. Haliburton County has developed a strong foundation of talent in acting, directing and stage design, in part because of the Pavilion itself and the experience gleaned from the Highlands Summer Festival.

The comedy focuses on two couples. Brendan Berube gives a delightfully sardonic performance as Richard Hyde-Finch, with his über-cool shaved head sticking out from a black t-shirt swathed in a black jacket. He's directing the play that's falling apart before his eyes on opening night. ("I must have been Pontius Pilot," he says, wondering if he's being made to atone for past sins.) His girlfriend is Cilla Fraser, whose insecurity and jealousy threatens to swamp Juliane vanLieshout's dignified composure.

Compare them with Jack and Ruth Tisdale. Jack is a varnish

salesman played with all the goofy I'd-rather-be-watching-a-baseball-game-than-some-hoity-toity-play simple-mindedness that must lie deep in Mike Jaycock's soul. Jaycock's physical presence – with his Hush Puppies clashing with his too-big bowtie and badly cut suit that fits a little too snugly over his expanding belly – was enough to make the audience laugh as soon as he walked onto the stage. We all know a Ruth, played with vulnerable sensitivity by Diane Hagerman. An office clerk, she's excited about getting VIP tickets to a theatrical evening, hoping that rubbing shoulders with the culturati will take a little of the salesman sheen off her husband.

Then there's the drunken has-been actor Michael Craig, who tries to maintain his disdainful composure even after he's been recognized as the guy who

plays a socket wrench in a television commercial. As played by Peter Forgrave, Craig gets the attention he craves when he literally steals the show from Kris Kadwell. Kadwell plays a British actor – actually, he sounded like an Afrikaaner who had spent his summers bartending in Ireland while studying Shakespeare at Eton! – who does a hilarious interpretation of a poor Southern farmer just trying to do right by his daughter. It shor musta bin har' for Roseanne Nichol, who briefly played his daughter in the play within a play, to do all dat churnin' and sweatin' while keeping a straight face.

Benton Brown's Leave It To Beaver earnestness as Tom Delaney gave his performance an energy that endeared him to his real and, surely, imaginary audience. A young actor who doesn't suffer from his charac-

ter's inability to get anyone to treat him seriously as an actor, Brown delivers one of the funniest scenes in the play when he takes over the role played by Nichol after she faints on stage.

"Is this a comedy," one of the Tisdales asks. "I don't think so," the spouse says. "It's written by a Canadian."

Ah, but when that Canadian is Norm Foster, comedy it is.

With winter's arrival making itself known outside the theatre's walls, the cast and crew of the *Opening Night* let the audience transport itself into the world where such things as stress and snow can be forgotten. And as for a February encore, Norman Foster fans will have to wait just a little bit longer. In late March, Highlands Little Theatre presents *Here On the Flight Path*, another Norm Foster play which it promises to be both hilarious and touching.

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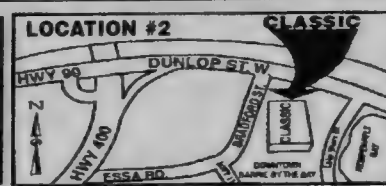
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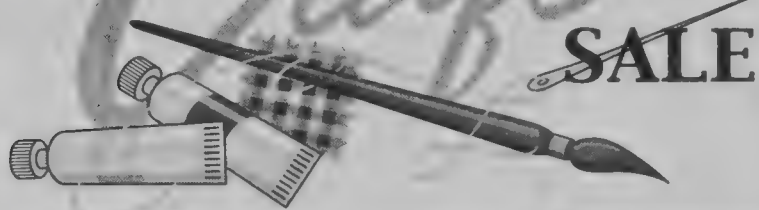
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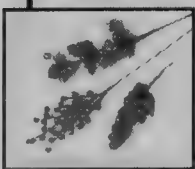
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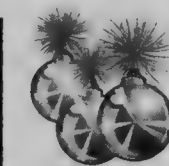
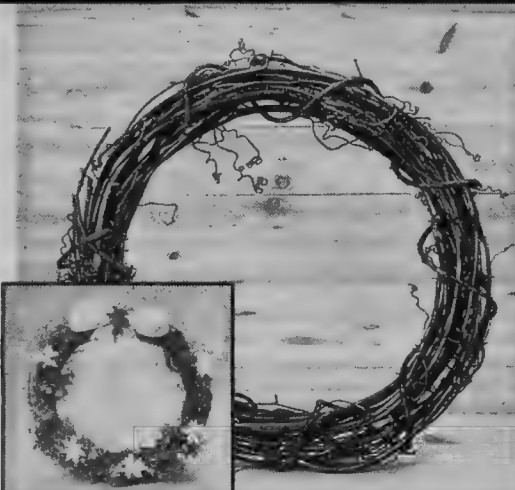
3" **17¢** **12"** **\$2.47**
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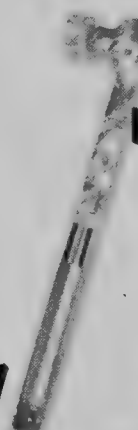
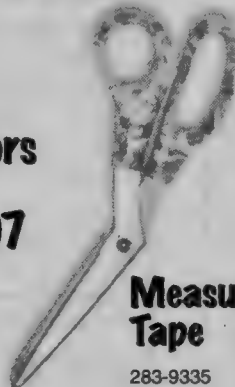
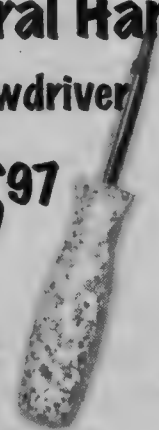
Scissors
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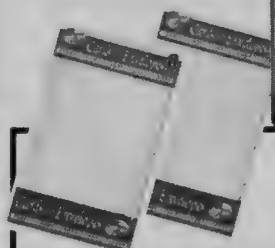
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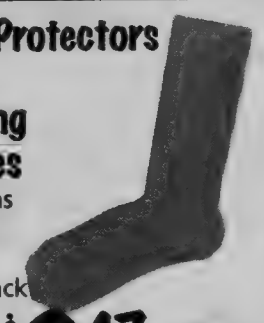
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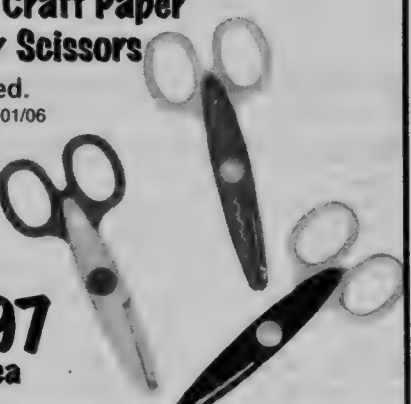


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Friday: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Haliburton Redhawks blown away Hurricanes

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

HHSS 1
HCSS 7

Costly turnovers spelled disaster in the Red Hawks' loss against the visiting Hurricanes.

A disappointed home crowd groaned as the goals mounted in a lopsided loss against the undefeated Holy Cross Hurricanes (2 - 0 - 0) at the Dysart arena on Monday, Nov. 21.

Head Coach Ron Yake said the team had the momentum, but gave it back with costly turnovers in their end late in the second period.

"We were in the game. Certainly more than half of the game we were in it and we certainly had our chances. Their goalie played well. He's a solid goalie," he said. "We had our chances to put the puck in the net, but were unfortunate in doing so. Late in the second [period] our defense had a difficult time making a couple of passes and we had some turnovers. If you have turnovers inside your zone then it'll be costly against a team that knows what their doing with the puck. That was our biggest problem."

Both turnovers resulted in Holy Cross goals, putting the Red Hawks behind 4 - 0 and stealing the momentum built from scoring chances on powerplays.

As a result of the game Yake said the team will focus on "positional play" in their own end and ensure the puck is brought out of the defensive zone without turnovers.

Despite the score he saw a lot of positives such as the forechecking and his defense in one-on-one situations. He remains optimistic about the young team.

"We've had great effort. It's a great group of boys. There is room for improvement. They're willing to try to improve; they're listening," he said.

He adds he's expecting his veterans to continue to "step it up and lead the team".

"There's lot of hockey left and we'll put together a better game next time we play those guys, I'm sure," he said.

Haliburton drops its second loss and has an overall (including AAA opposition) record 1 - 0 - 2.

Eric Worm tallied the lone marker in the 7 - 1 loss. The Red Hawks next home game is against the Crestwood Mustangs on Monday, Dec. 5. Start time is 7:15 p.m.



Red Hawks winger Jordan Joanu breaks out of his own end, carrying the puck during the first period against the Holy Cross Hurricanes.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** Wednesday, December 14th, 2005
- **TIME:** 11:00 am.
- **LOCATION:** Council Chambers at the Municipal Office, 135 Maple Ave., Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-05-024 – Barbara Bolin and Stephen Bowskill
 - Purpose and Effect: to permit construction of a single family dwelling.
 - Reduce the required street setback to 90 feet.
 - Reduce the required exterior side building setback to 33 feet.
 - Location: Part Lot 25, Concession 3, Guilford Township (County Road 14, Eagle Lake).
2. D13-MV-05-025 – Gregory, Sandra and Christopher Bishop
 - Purpose and Effect: to permit an existing accessory building to be located on a newly created lot prior to the construction of the main building. If granted, conditions for use will be established.
 - Location: Part Lot 12, Concession 6, Harburn Township (Haliburton Lake - 1116 Fort Irwin Road).
 - This property is the subject of application for consent H-062/2005.
 - This property is the subject of an active application for an amendment to the Zoning By-law (file D14-ZB-05-Bishop).
 - Minor variance D13-MV-05-026 also applies to this property.
3. D13-MV-05-026 – Gregory, Sandra and Christopher Bishop
 - Purpose and Effect: recognize an existing seasonal dwelling and retain its legal status following severance of the lot.
 - Location: Part Lot 12, Concession 6, Harburn Township (Haliburton Lake - 1116 Fort Irwin Road).
 - This property is the subject of application for consent H-062/2005.
 - This property is the subject of an active application for an amendment to the Zoning By-law (file D14-ZB-05-Bishop).
 - Minor variance D13-MV-05-025 also applies to this property.

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing in person to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by Counsel for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept written submissions. A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, is available from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Date: November 28th, 2005

Patricia Martin, BES, MCIP, RPP
Secretary – Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

Jingle, baby, jingle

Win a \$400 gift certificate for Haliburton Home Hardware in the annual Christmas Lights Contest hosted by the Haliburton County Echo, the Minden Times and Haliburton Home Hardware. Deadline for entries is Dec. 5 at 5 p.m.



Ontario's Healthy Restaurant Program

Make the "smart" choice for your Christmas party.

Choose one of these award winning "Eat Smart!" restaurants for your dining experience!

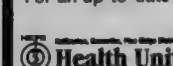
Eat Smart! restaurants offer:

- healthy food choices
- 100% smoke-free seating
- a proven record in safe food handling

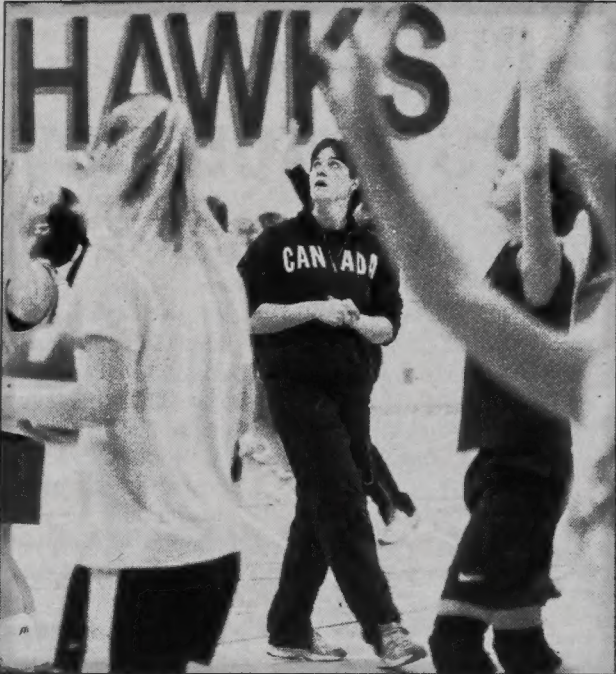
EAGLE LAKE		
Sir Sam's Ski Area	Sir Sam's Road	(705) 754-2298
HALIBURTON		
Bonnie View Inn	County Rd. 18	(705) 457-2350
Gallery O. The Green	County Rd. 21	(705) 457-1800
Delta Pinestone Resort		
Heatherwood	County Rd. 21	(705) 457-1800
Delta Pinestone Resort		
Kosy Korner	Highland Street	(705) 457-2810
Lakeview Motel and Dining	4951 County Rd. 21	(705) 457-1027
Old Country House	Highland Street	(705) 457-2301
Pasta-ta-Pizza	231 Highland St.	(705) 457-3424
MINDEN		
Gravity Coffee House	2 Newcastle St.	(705) 286-4002
Heather Lodge	14483 Hwy 35	(705) 489-3257
Wild Orchard Thai Cuisine	North Water St.	(705) 286-1532

For a list of Eat Smart! restaurants across Ontario, visit www.eatsmart.web.ca

For an up-to-date listing of local restaurants, visit www.hkpr.on.ca





Eyeing the first home game action the new Co-Head Coach Janice Rickard wants the team to focus on the basics before employing any specific strategies.

New volleyball coach endorses basics

All great teams start with a strong foundation.

This year's new co-head coach of the girls senior volleyball team, Janice Rickard, is abiding by this train of thought.

Before she even contemplates strategies or a team style Rickard is focused on working on the fundamentals.

"Right now we're going back to basics. We're doing the basic skills, working on our control first and focusing on building a team, working together. We'll worry about the offensive attack later," she says. "I'm hoping for a competitive team. I don't know what's going to happen, but we'll see. For me the whole thing is team play."

The new coach isn't new to the program. Rickard assisted last year's Head Coach Paul Morissette after she started to teach in February, 2004.

The coach and the team will be showcasing their skills in their home opener on December 6.

"Right now we're just working towards that," she says.

Rickard has primarily coached Grade 7s and 8s for seven years. She has more than 13 years of playing experience, including two consecutive MVP years when she captained the Queen's University team. Those last university years she played the power position after moving from the middle spot. The team is co-coached by Brad Tait.

Coaching with passion

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The Red Hawks junior volleyball coach has a pound of passion for every ounce of blood she's shed for the sport she loves.

Despite measuring well under six feet, Andrea Borysiuk played competitive volleyball at the power position all her life. She is continuing in that role, if not that position, coaching at HHSS.

Borysiuk has an undeniable spirit that she wants her players to have. Her insatiable drive to challenge herself to achieve goals is as natural as breathing and has been a part of her entire life.

"Something I can offer these guys is to take a risk. It doesn't matter how old you are. You've got to be able to take a risk and see it through," she said.

Borysiuk moved her family (including a daughter and two dogs) from a secure 16-year teaching job in Mississauga to Haliburton in a matter of four days, coming here in October. She still has unpacking left to do.

Before she (with co-coach Christie Chester) even contemplates strategies or schemes Borysiuk wants this team to be in shape for "marathon" games (five teams in one day). Part of the pre-season focus will be on a strong foundation of skills.

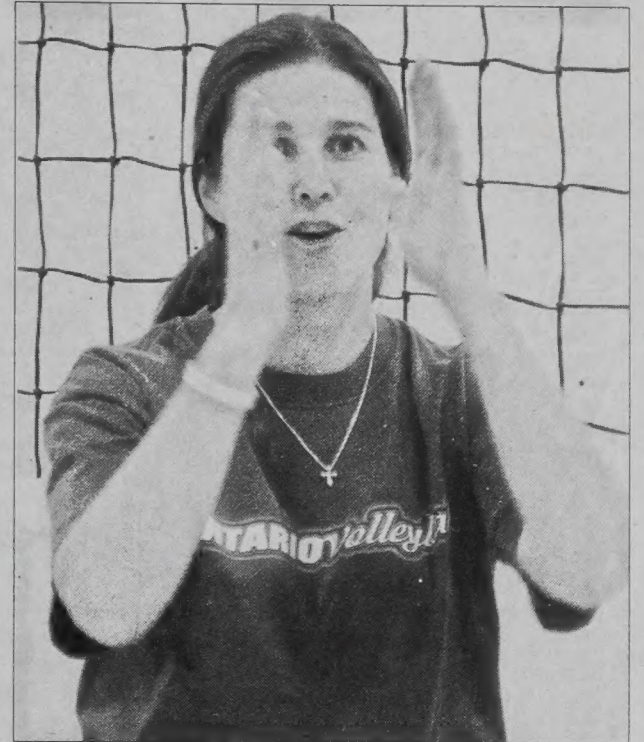
"I don't care if it's senior or junior it's back to the basics. Getting the rust off and fine tuning those skills," she said.

Borysiuk coached for 16 years at the Philip Pocock Catholic High School in Mississauga, including four concurrent years at Sheridan College. Her 18 years of playing experience includes five years at Dalhousie University, followed by three years of competitive play on the beach and seven years playing in the Ontario

Volleyball Association. This includes 17 years with Olympia Sport Camps.

The new coach fell in love with the sport in Grade 8. She enjoys the team play, but loves the mental aspects of the sport.

"It's an aggressive sport. I love it," she said. "Ninety per cent of this game is upstairs. You've got to be smart upstairs to play this game."



New Co-Head Coach Andrea Borysiuk is bringing a wealth of experience to the junior Red Hawks volleyball team.

www.everythingfitz.ca

Northern Lights Pavilion

Saturday, December 10

8:00pm

Admission \$20. / Reserved seat tickets at Master's Book Store

...fiery fiddling

...masterfully woven harmonies

...sensational step dancing

17 year old *Pat* is the anchor man for the group as he keeps them on tempo with his drums. He also plays the Bodhran drum and dances in trios and quartets.

16 year old *Julie* is emerging as one of the best young fiddle players in Canada. In 2004 she was acclaimed the 'Junior Canadian Champion' 2004. She has also won countless step dancing awards.

15 year old *Kerry* is a sensational step dancer and she has won many awards at step dance contests throughout Ontario. Her trick fiddling segment of the show is always a crowd pleaser.

12 year old *Tom* was named 'Ontario Junior Fiddle Champion' and Ontario Junior Step Dance Champion'. In 2005 he captured the 12 and under Canadian Fiddle Championship.



ATV Trails in Haliburton County

The Haliburton ATV Association (a member club of the provincial organization OFATV) would like to thank all of its members for a great season and for their support for riding responsibly.

All HATVA trails are **CLOSED** for ATV use from December 1 until April 1. The only exception is that the Haliburton County Rail Trail does not open until June 1.

The HATVA encourages all ATVers to join the OFATV to help promote and support responsible riding on managed trails. Full membership details can be found on the HATVA website (www.haliburtonatv.com) and on the OFATV's site (www.ofatv.org). Permits are available after December 1/05 for the 2006 season. See you in the spring!

Thank you.

Storm home hockey schedule

The following are Highland Storm home games.

In Haliburton

Dec. 2 Pee wee A vs Ennismore @ 8:00
Dec. 3 Novice home tournament 8:00-8:00
Dec. 4 Pee wee TC vs. Sunderland @ 1:30
Novice vs Bracebridge 3:00
Dec. 9 Bantam TC vs Bobcaygeon @ 6:30
Pee wee A vs Bracebridge @ 8:00
Midget TC vs Woodville @ 9:30
Dec. 10 Atom AE Silver Stick 8:00-8:00
Dec. 11 AAE/PTC Silver Stick Finals 8:00-5:00

In Minden

Dec. 2 Pee wee TC vs Mariposa Black @ 7:00
Midget A vs Almaguin @ 9:30
Dec. 3 Atom AE vs Bracebridge @ 3:00
Bantam TC vs Ops @ 4:30
Midget TC vs Manvers @ 6:00
Bantam A vs Parry Sound @ 7:30
Dec. 4 Midget TC vs Mariposa White @ 2:30
Dec. 9 Atom TC vs Sunderland @ 7:00
Dec. 10 Pee wee TC Silver Stick 8:00-8:00
Dec. 11 Atom TC vs Omeme White @ 1:00
Pee wee A vs Gravenhurst @ 4:00

Strong Redhawk wrestling squad earns 14 top four finishes at tourney



Fourteen Red Hawk Wrestlers ranked in the top four in their weight category at the Trenton High School Wrestling Tournament. Front row: Julie Johnston (gold), Jackie Grech (silver), Mike Davis (bronze). Middle row: Jeff Griffin (bronze), Sam Hayes (bronze), Karl Kadwell (silver), Tristan Ellis (fourth), Colin Ellis (fourth), Chris Bryan (silver), Sara Lacy (bronze), Nicole Phillips (fourth). Back row: Dylan Dalke (silver), Harley Foulds (silver). Absent from photo: Kalem Kyle (silver)

The Red Hawk Wrestling team opened the 2005/06 season on November 23 with their first competition at the Trenton High School Wrestling Tournament. More than 250 competitors from across the region attended competed in three divisions. Twenty-seven wrestlers represented Haliburton Highlands Secondary School in various weight categories, presenting one of the largest clubs at the tournament.

With improved technique throughout the day, 14 Red Hawks grappled their way to top four finishes in their weight class. This was the first tournament for several of the wrestlers and Coaches Klose and Fockler are pleased with the performances from the rookies.



Senior wrestler Jackie Grech starts her third season with a head-and-arm pin.

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\$39,900.

2004
EXPLORER LIMITED
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41,000 kms
Stk. #US268A
\$33,500.

2004
F150 S/C
XLT 4x4
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2003
F150 S/C
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2003
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5.4 L, V8, Auto Fully Loaded
56,000 kms
Stk. #U5317A
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2003
F150 S/C
Full 4-doors, fully loaded, 4x4
41,000 kms
Stk. #UP1831
\$24,900.

2002
F150 S/C
XLT
XTR 4x4
73,000 kms
Stk. #UP1792,
\$18,900.

2001
F150 S/C
XLT 4x4
4.6L, V8, auto, loaded, 82,000 kms
Stk# U5343A
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Reach for The Future

For the seventh year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. To date the 2005 "Reach for The Future" campaign has raised \$4,280.00. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the \$980,000 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

Elisabeth Alrutz
Harvey & Audrey Barnhart
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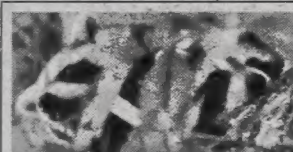
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Aileen Selbie
Don & Peggy Sharp
C. Fred & Joyce Strang
Margaret Twyford
C. Barry Withers

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank our Honourary Chairmen for our 2005 "Reach for The Future" campaign, **Dr. Bob Heyes** and **Dr. David Fiddler**.

If you would like to help us "Reach for The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 or you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities.



A Foundation for the Health of the Highlands
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION



Need fodder for office cooler conversation? Read the Echo!

Ready for the next flood

Last week, county road crews installed a large new culvert under the road leading to Eagle Lake. The old culvert had worn out. A culvert was also replaced on Deep Bay Road.

DARREN LUM/Echo



Taxi owners disagree on annual \$1,000 parking fee

from page 1

ing to pay an all-encompassing annual licensing fee should council turn to regulation.

"I would fight [Wilson's suggestion] just on principle," says Grant, who has owned the company for the past two years as well as owning the Bernstein's store in downtown Haliburton. "Why

not charge everyone else for a parking spot? You don't see Hyland Taxi jumbled on the street too often. If there is a slow period the drivers are usually down at the dock. But I won't go for them slapping \$1,000 per spot fee."

Grant says he would be in favour of licensing but only if the municipality is prepared to take full responsibility for it,

including 24-hour enforcement and regular taxi inspections.

"If they are going to do it right, then it would be good to have regulations. It would put a stop to a lot of problems that go on," says Grant.

Council has experimented with regulating the taxi industry but without lasting success. In 1997, the municipality

revoked its taxi by-law after hearing stories of a dozen camp kids piling into a taxi that had seatbelts for only half of them. Council felt it didn't have the manpower to enforce its safety regulations.

Whether or not the current council is willing to take on the considerable liability issues that come with regulation remains to be seen.



OUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTEST REALLY ROCKS!

Here's something that's going to jingle your bells ... you can win a \$400 gift certificate for anything your little heart desires at Haliburton Home Hardware, just for decorating your home for the holidays! Toys, tools, kitchen gadgets and giftware: it's all at the shop where Santa shops!

The \$400 shopping extravaganza is the first place in this year's Christmas Lights Contest, sponsored by Haliburton Home Hardware, The Minden Times and The Haliburton County Echo.

Second prize is a \$200 gift certificate from Haliburton Home Hardware. Third prize is a year's subscription to both the Echo AND the Times.

Entering is easy! Just decorate outside your house and yard with Christmas lights, cut-outs, baubles, bells or whatever strikes your festive fancy! Then write your name, phone number, address and REALLY GOOD DIRECTIONS either on an email message or a piece of paper. Your email can be sent to colliffe@haliburtonecho.ca. Your piece of paper can be faxed to 457-3275 or mailed to Christmas Lights Contest, c/o Haliburton County Echo, Box 360, Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0. No phone-in entries, please. You must live in Haliburton County to be eligible.

Entries must be received by 5 p.m. Monday, December 5, 2005. Judging will be done during the evening that week and prizes awarded in plenty of time for Christmas shopping!

The Times
MINDEN, ONTARIO

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY



